

(B) the amount of traffic which contributes only marginally to fixed costs and the extent to which, if any, rates on such traffic can be changed to maximize the revenues from such traffic; and

(C) the carrier's mix of rail traffic to determine whether one commodity is paying an unreasonable share of the carrier's overall revenues,

recognizing the policy of this part that rail carriers shall earn adequate revenues, as established by the Board under section 10704(a)(2) of this title.

(3) The Board shall, within one year after January 1, 1996, complete the pending Interstate Commerce Commission non-coal rate guidelines proceeding to establish a simplified and expedited method for determining the reasonableness of challenged rail rates in those cases in which a full stand-alone cost presentation is too costly, given the value of the case.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 809; amended Pub. L. 104-287, §5(22), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3390.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 10701 and 10701a were omitted in the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

Section 10701, Pub. L. 95-473, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1371; Pub. L. 96-296, §13(a), July 1, 1980, 94 Stat. 803; Pub. L. 96-448, title II, §201(b)(1), (2), Oct. 14, 1980, 94 Stat. 1899, 1900; Pub. L. 97-261, §9(a), Sept. 20, 1982, 96 Stat. 1109; Pub. L. 103-180, §2(a), (b), (g), Dec. 3, 1993, 107 Stat. 2044, 2047, 2049, related to standards for rates, classifications, through routes, rules, and practices. See sections 10701, 13701, 13709, and 15501 of this title.

Section 10701a, added Pub. L. 96-448, title II, §201(a), Oct. 14, 1980, 94 Stat. 1898; amended Pub. L. 103-272, §4(j)(19), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1369, related to standards for rates for rail carriers. See section 10701 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 104-287 substituted "January 1, 1996" for "the effective date of this paragraph".

EFFECTIVE DATE

Chapter effective Jan. 1, 1996, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 104-88, see section 2 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 701 of this title.

ABOLITION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Interstate Commerce Commission abolished by section 101 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as a note under section 701 of this title.

§ 10702. Authority for rail carriers to establish rates, classifications, rules, and practices

A rail carrier providing transportation or service subject to the jurisdiction of the Board under this part shall establish reasonable—

(1) rates, to the extent required by section 10707, divisions of joint rates, and classifications for transportation and service it may provide under this part; and

(2) rules and practices on matters related to that transportation or service.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 810.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 10702, Pub. L. 95-473, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1372; Pub. L. 103-180, §6(a), Dec. 3, 1993, 107 Stat.

2050; Pub. L. 103-311, title II, §206(a), Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1684, related to authority for carriers to establish rates, classifications, rules, and practices, prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a). See sections 10702 and 15502 of this title.

§ 10703. Authority for rail carriers to establish through routes

Rail carriers providing transportation subject to the jurisdiction of the Board under this part shall establish through routes (including physical connections) with each other and with water carriers providing transportation subject to chapter 137, shall establish rates and classifications applicable to those routes, and shall establish rules for their operation and provide—

(1) reasonable facilities for operating the through route; and

(2) reasonable compensation to persons entitled to compensation for services related to the through route.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §102(a), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 810.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 10703, Pub. L. 95-473, Oct. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1372; Pub. L. 96-296, §22(a), (h), July 1, 1980, 94 Stat. 812, 814; Pub. L. 97-449, §5(g)(5), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2443; Pub. L. 98-216, §2(11), Feb. 14, 1984, 98 Stat. 5; Pub. L. 99-521, §7(a), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2994; Pub. L. 103-272, §5(m)(21), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1377, related to authority for carriers to establish through routes, prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a). See sections 10703 and 13705 of this title.

§ 10704. Authority and criteria: rates, classifications, rules, and practices prescribed by Board

(a)(1) When the Board, after a full hearing, decides that a rate charged or collected by a rail carrier for transportation subject to the jurisdiction of the Board under this part, or that a classification, rule, or practice of that carrier, does or will violate this part, the Board may prescribe the maximum rate, classification, rule, or practice to be followed. The Board may order the carrier to stop the violation. When a rate, classification, rule, or practice is prescribed under this subsection, the affected carrier may not publish, charge, or collect a different rate and shall adopt the classification and observe the rule or practice prescribed by the Board.

(2) The Board shall maintain and revise as necessary standards and procedures for establishing revenue levels for rail carriers providing transportation subject to its jurisdiction under this part that are adequate, under honest, economical, and efficient management, to cover total operating expenses, including depreciation and obsolescence, plus a reasonable and economic profit or return (or both) on capital employed in the business. The Board shall make an adequate and continuing effort to assist those carriers in attaining revenue levels prescribed under this paragraph. Revenue levels established under this paragraph should—

(A) provide a flow of net income plus depreciation adequate to support prudent capital outlays, assure the repayment of a reasonable level of debt, permit the raising of needed eq-